TERROR TALES

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JULY
1976
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VOODOO TERROR

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THE HUNGRY SLIME
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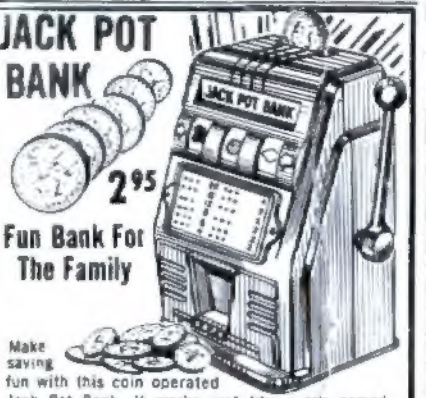
JACK POT BANK



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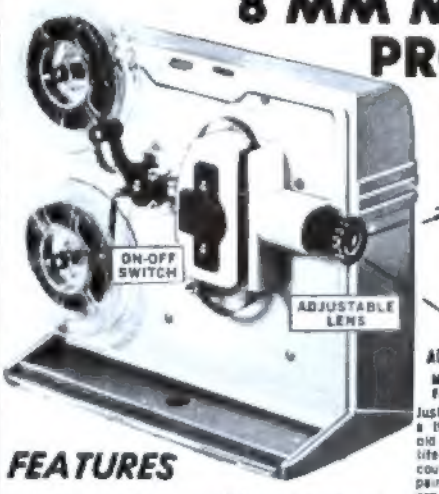
COLOR OR BLACK & WHITE



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We are so sure that you will be delighted with this versatile Projector that we invite you to try it for 10 days and then, if you don't agree that is is a wonderful buy, return it to us and we'll refund the purchase price - with no questions asked. Don't Delay - Send your Order Now!

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☐ I enclose $9.98 (please add 95c shipping charges).

☐ Send COD. I enclose $1 deposit and will pay the postman balance plus postage and COD handling charges on delivery.

NAME

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☐ Send me Stereo Specs @ $2.98 each.

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the STRANGE VAMPIRE

LUXEMBERG IS ONE OF THE SMALLEST STATES OF EUROPE, BUT OVER ITS FERTILE FIELDS ARMIES MARCHED AND BLOOD HAS FLOWED FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. RELICS OF BATTLE ARE SCATTERED IN ITS RUBBLED SOIL. GREAT FAMILIES HAVE PERISHED AND DARK LEGENDS HAVE ARISEN WHICH HAUNT THE COUNTRYSIDE AND STRIKE TERROR INTO IGNORANT HEARTS.

BUT AS THE ELATED FARMERS LEFT THE FIELD...
WHO HAS TAKEN THE SUICIDE SWORD OF BARON DES GARENNES? WHO HAS UNCOVERED MY ANCIENT DISGRACE!
WHAT HAVE I RETURNED TO? MY CASTLE IN RUINS! MY LAND RAVISHED! THE SWORD OF MY DISGRACE WAS PLUCKED FROM MY HEART WHILE I LAY IN UNHALLOWED GROUND!
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF WILTZ...
HERE LIVE THE GHOULS WHO ROBBED ME! I SHALL HAVE MY SWORD BACK AND THEIR BLOOD, TOO, THE PEASANT SLAVES!
SACRE! WHO-- WHO ARE YOU! WH--WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOU SWINE! I AM BARON CHARLES DES GERENNES! WHERE IS THE SWORD YOU TORE FROM MY BODY?
GAAAR! LET ME GO! MY FRIEND CLEMENCE TOOK IT TO LUXEMBERG TO THE MUSEUM OF THE WAR COLLEGE!
YOU HAVE AROUSED A FEVER IN ME! MY THROAT IS DRY! I NEED YOUR BLOOD TO SUSTAIN ME!
YOUR STRUGGLES ARE USELESS! BE QUIET!
AAAAAAHHHHAAHHHH

JEAN'S DEATH CRIES ROUSED NEARBY FARMERS...
IT SOUNDED LIKE JEAN VALANCE!
THOSE SCREAMS CAME FROM THE BARN!

AGH, IT IS JEAN VALANCE!
LOOK UP THERE! A STRANGE BEAST LIKE A GIANT BAT. FLYING AWAY!

A DOCTOR PUSHED THROUGH THE HORRIFIED GROUP...
MY FRIENDS, THIS I HAVE NEVER SEEN IN MY 30 YEARS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE! JEAN HAS NO BLOOD LEFT! THE WOUND WAS MADE BY A VAMPIRE!
A VAMPIRE! YES, THAT EXPLAINS IT-- THE GIANT BAT, JEAN'S SCREAMS!

MEANWHILE, AT THE GATES OF THE WAR COLLEGE IN LUXEMBERG...
OPEN THE GATES! I DEMAND ENTRANCE TO THE MUSEUM OF WAR RELICS!
THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED! YOU CANNOT ENTER IT UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING AT NINE!

OUT OF MY WAY, YOU INSOLENT WORM! I AM BARON, GENERAL DES GARENNES!
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE! I HAVE MY ORDERS! CLEAR OUT, YOU OLD LUNATIC!

AAH, YOUR THROAT IS LIKE A MAGNET! ONLY YOUR DEATH SHALL SATISFY MY CRAVING NOW!
LET ME GO! YOUR HAND IS LIKE COLD STEEL!
AAAHHH

I HAVE DRUNK MY FILL! NOW I MUST FLY AWAY BEFORE THE GUARDS ARRIVE!

A HUGE MAN... STRANGE OLD UNIFORM... SAID HE WAS BARON DES GARENNES! HE CHOKED ME-- AND... AAARRR!
POOR DEVIL! SUMMON THE GUARD OFFICER AND A DOCTOR!

LATER...
HE DIED OF STRANGULATION AND LOSS OF BLOOD! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS BARON DES GARENNES, CAPTAIN?
IT'S PREPOSTEROUS! THE LAST GARENNES DIED BY HIS OWN SWORD IN 1814 AFTER HIS ARMY WAS DEFEATED! WAIT! THE SWORD WAS FOUND AND BROUGHT HERE TODAY!

THE COMMANDING GENERAL WAS SUMMONED...
THIS BARON DES GARENNES WILL RETURN FOR HIS SWORD! DO NOT DISPLAY IT IN THE MUSEUM! WATCH FOR HIM!
YES, SIR!

THE NEXT DAY...
MY SWORD! NOW I SHALL GET BACK MY PRECIOUS SWORD!
IT'S THAT FIEND OF A BARON! I WILL ALERT THE GUARDS IN THE MUSEUM!

THE MUSEUM CRAWLS WITH SOLDIERS! AH THE SWORD DISPLAY! I THINK I SEE MINE THERE AND I WILL HAVE IT!

GET AWAY FROM THERE, YOU MADMAN! AFTER HIM, MEN!
MADMAN? WHEN I HAVE THIS SWORD IN MY HAND, I'LL CUT THOSE WORDS OUT OF YOUR THROAT!
CRASH!
TINKLE!

BACK, YOU DOGS! I WAS NAPOLEON'S RIGHT HAND! I'LL HAVE YOUR BLOOD!
CUT THE BARON DOWN! SHOW HIM NO MERCY!

DIE, YOU PARADE SOLDIER! BRING ON A WHOLE COMPANY, AND I'LL SLAY THEM ALL!

HE'S GONE!
NO! LOOK... A GIANT BAT FLYING AWAY WITH A SWORD! WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING A VAMPIRE!

LATER...
CAPTAIN PARTOUT IS WOUNDED AND THREE MEN ARE DEAD, SIR!
WHAT? YOU MEAN HE WAS ABLE TO SUBDUE A WHOLE COMPANY OF GUARDS?

THIS CREATURE IS NOT OF FLESH AND BLOOD! HE IS A FIEND! A VAMPIRE!
DISMISS YOUR MEN! I'M CALLING A STAFF MEETING INSTANTLY!

GENERAL, THERE IS A MAN OUTSIDE FROM WILTZ. HE WISHES AN AUDIENCE! IT IS ABOUT THE BARON!
SEND HIM IN! MAYBE HE CAN SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE MATTER!

AND YOUR FRIEND WAS KILLED IN THE SAME MANNER! A LARGE BAT WAS SEEN TO FLY AWAY AFTER HIS DEATH!
OUI, MON GENERAL! I WISH WE HAD NEVER FOUND THIS ACCURSED SWORD! IT'S THAT SWORD HE'S AFTER!

AN HOUR LATER...
GENTLEMEN, RESEARCH TELLS ME THAT ONLY A SWORD THRUST THROUGH THE HEART WILL KILL THIS VAMPIRE! HIS SWORD!
THEN SOMEONE MUST BE FOUND TO DUEL WITH THIS SUPERHUMAN CREATURE! I HAVE IT! COL. MOSELLE, THE FENCING MASTER!

THIS IS YOUR ENEMY, COL. MOSELLE! HISTORY SHOWS HE WAS A GREAT SWORDSMAN AND STRONG AS A LION!
I CAN ONLY OFFER MY LIFE! I WILL KILL THIS BEAST OR DIE TRYING!

HERE IS HIS SWORD! MAY YOU BURY IT DEEP IN HIS HEART!
I AM READY, GENERAL! WE WILL DRIVE TO THE RUINS ON HIS CASTLE NEAR WILTZ!

MEANWHILE...
I HAVE BEEN TRICKED! THIS IS NOT MY SWORD! I MUST GO BACK TO THE MUSEUM! WHAT IS THAT I HEAR?

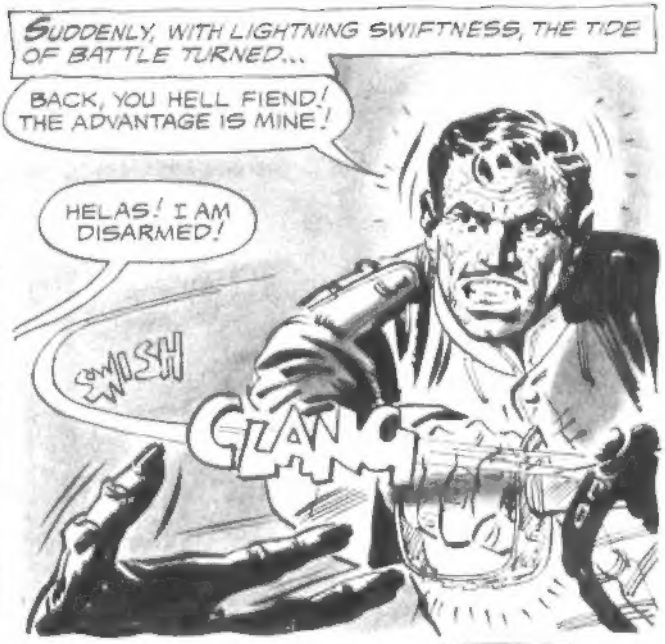
COL. MOSELLE HAD ARRIVED ON HIS MISSION OF VENGEANCE...
MAY I PRESENT YOU WITH YOUR SWORD, BARON! WHICH I HOPE TO RUN THROUGH YOUR BLACK HEART!
MY SWORD! YOU FOOL! IT IS USELESS TO DUEL WITH ME! I WAS THE GREATEST SWORDSMAN IN LUXEMBURG!

I'LL MAKE SHORT WORK OF YOU!
NOT SO FAST, BARON! I HAVE SOME TRICKS MYSELF!
SCLANG!

HAH, I HAVE DRAWN FIRST BLOOD!
ONLY A SCRATCH, BARON! FIRST BLOOD IS NOT ALWAYS LAST!
RIIIPP!

A BATTLE OF GIANTS! BUT THE BARON HAS THE UPPER HAND!
COL. MOSELLE IS WEAKENING! HOW LONG CAN THIS SAVAGE FIGHT LAST?
CLANG

YOU DOG, HOW DARE YOU DUEL WITH BARON DES GARENNES? SAY YOUR PRAYERS!
NOT WHILE THERE IS STRENGTH IN MY ARMS!
CLANG

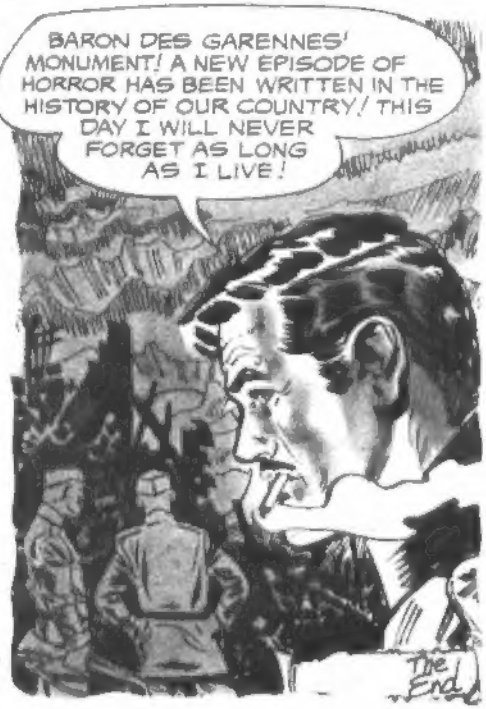

SUDDENLY, WITH LIGHTNING SWIFTNESS, THE TIDE OF BATTLE TURNED...
BACK, YOU HELL FIEND! THE ADVANTAGE IS MINE!
HELAS! I AM DISARMED!
SWISH
CLANG

RETURN TO YOUR GRAVE AND MAY YOUR BONES ROT!

COL. MOSELLE, YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT! YOU DUELLED WITH THE DEVIL HIMSELF AND CONQUERED!
LOOK! HIS FACE IS SHRIVELING AWAY TO DUST!

NOW WE CAN RETURN THE SWORD TO THE MUSEUM!
NO, THE SWORD MUST REMAIN IN HIS BODY! IT WILL KEEP HIM IN HIS GRAVE! LISTEN! WHAT IS THAT RUMBLING NOISE?

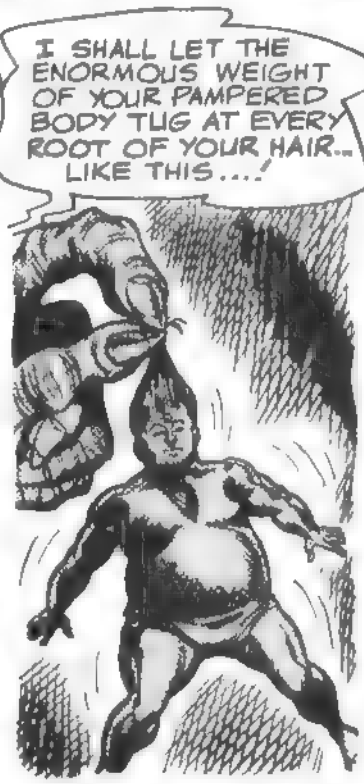
AWAY! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THE CASTLE WALLS ARE FALLING!


BARON DES GARENNES' MONUMENT! A NEW EPISODE OF HORROR HAS BEEN WRITTEN IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY! THIS DAY I WILL NEVER FORGET AS LONG AS I LIVE!
The End

VOODOO TERROR
DEATH MUST COME TO ALL MEN... IT IS NOT THAT WHICH BOTHERS MOST OF US... IT IS THE DARK, SECRET UNANSWERED QUESTION... NOW WILL IT COME?
AT THIS MOMENT, IT IS THE FARTHEST QUESTION IN THE MIND OF MULTI-MILLIONAIRE CLARK VANDERMERE! IF HE COULD WITNESS THE EERIE OMINOUS RITUAL TAKING PLACE IN AN UNDERGROUND CRYPT IN WOODSTOCK CEMETERY... HE WOULD BE VERY CONCERNED...
HEE! HEE! YOU ARE A PERFECT DOLL! AN ALMOST LIFE-LIKE REPLICA OF THE MAN I HATE MOST IN LIFE... THE MAN YOU WILL HELP ME TO DESTROY!

FOR TWENTY YEARS YOU HAVE BEEN LIVING IN THE LAP OF LUXURY... MULTIPLYING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ON THE INVENTION YOU STOLE FROM ME! AND NOW IT IS MY TURN TO REAP A SHARE OF THE REWARD! NOT IN TERMS OF MONEY, BUT IN GLORIOUS VENGEANCE! HA! HA! HA! HA!

AND NOW TO TEST YOUR ABILITY, MY LITTLE DOLL! IF YOU ARE AS AFFECTIVE AS YOU LOOK YOU SHOULD RENDER CLARK VANDERMERE EXCRUTIATING AGONY AND PAIN! HEE! HEE! HEE!


I SHALL LET THE ENORMOUS WEIGHT OF YOUR PAMPERED BODY TUG AT EVERY ROOT OF YOUR HAIR... LIKE THIS....!

...AT THAT VERY MOMENT AN AGONIZING SCREAM SHATTERS THE SILENCE OF CLARK VANDERMERE'S BEDROOM...

...PROFUSE BLEEDING RENDERS HIS PAIN-RACKED HEAD AND FACE INTO A GROTESQUE MASK OF AGONY...
AIIIIIEEE

BACK AT THE CRYPT, A MACABRE FIGURE DANCES JOYOUSLY AT THE SUCCESS OF HIS EVIL VENDETTA...
HA! HA! HEE! HO! HAW!
...SUDDENLY THE FRENZIED DANCE STOPPED... AND THE LONELY FIGURE STOOD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CRYPT FLOOR... HIS FACE CONTORTED WITH HATE AND ANGER...
OH, YES, MY DEAR PARTNER, HOW WELL I REMEMBER THAT NIGHT! I WAS WORKING LATE IN MY LABORATORY, EXHILERATED BY THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF MY NEW INVENTION... A MACHINE CAPABLE OF PRODUCING SYNTHETIC BLOOD...
I WAS SO ELATED THAT I WAS UNAWARE OF YOUR PRESENCE... OR THAT YOUR GREED WOULD CAUSE YOU TO CRUSH MY SKULL...
CRUNCH!
...THEY ONLY FOUND THIS CREMATED CADAVER TO BE EXHUMED FROM THE HOT ASHES AND BURIED HERE IN THIS COLD, DARK CRYPT!
AFTER STEALING THE PLANS, YOU SET FIRE TO THE PLACE... LEAVING MY LIFELESS FORM TO BE INCINERATED BY THE TORTUROUS CONSUMING HEAT OF THE FLAMES...

YOU MADE ONE BIG MISTAKE, DEAR PARTNER... YOU WERE NOT AWARE THAT I HAD JUST GIVEN MYSELF A COMPLETE TRANSFUSION OF MY SYNTHETIC BLOOD MOMENTS BEFORE YOU ENTERED THE LAB...
HEE! HEE! HEE!

SYNTHETIC BLOOD THAT HAS THE MIRACULOUS ABILITY TO RESTORE LIFE AFTER A BODY LIES DORMENT IN ITS GRAVE FOR TWENTY YEARS! I HAVE NOW RISEN FROM THE DEAD FOR MY REVENGE!

MEANWHILE, CLARK VANDERMERE GROVELS IN HIS OWN BLOOD... COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED FROM THE EXCRUTIATING PAIN HIS BODY EXPERIENCED MOMENTS BEFORE...
OH-H-H-H-H-H!
UGH!

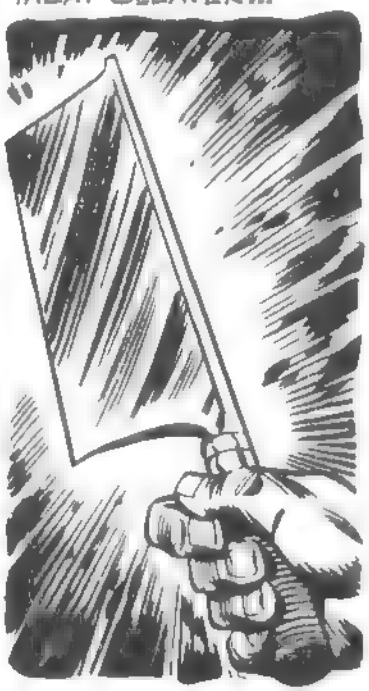
...HE RISES TO HIS FEET... WEAK AND DIZZY BUT COMPLETELY RELIEVED FROM THE TORMENTING AGONY INFLICTED ON HIS PERSON BY THE LIVING CORPSE... BUT HE IS...

...UNAWARE THAT IT WILL BE A SHORT REPRIEVE, FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT AS THE MACABRE FIGURE IN THE CRYPT PREPARES THE VOO-DOO DOLL FOR ANOTHER EVIL PERFORMANCE...

HE PASSES THE VOODOO DOLL OVER THE HOT FLAME OF THE CANDLE...
CLARK VANDERMERE'S ALREADY TORMENTED BODY WRITHES WITH THE IMPACT OF THE SUDDEN AGONIZING BURNING SENSATION THAT SEARS HIS CLOTHING AND INCINERATES HIS LIVING FLESH...
EEEEiiiiiYiii
THE SMELL OF HIS SCORCHED BODY PERMIATES THE BEDROOM... HIS BOILING BLOOD POURS FROM EVERY GAPING WOUND...
BACK AT THE CRYPT...
IT IS DONE...YOU LEFT MY LIFELESS FORM ON THE LABORATORY FLOOR TO BURN... NOW YOU KNOW HOW IT FEELS... HOW DOES IT FEEL CLARK VANDERMERE? HA-HA-HA...
AND NOW FOR THE COUP DE GRACE... AND MY COMPLETE REVENGE SHALL BE REALIZED...

IN A SENSE, WHAT I AM ABOUT TO DO IS AN ACT OF MERCY... I SHALL PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY ONCE AND FOR ALL...

AFTER PLACING THE VOODOO DOLL ON THE MANTLE, THE WEIRD FIGURE REACHES INTO A DARK CORNER OF THE CRYPT...


...FROM WHICH HE BRINGS FORTH A HUGE MEAT CLEAVER...

...HE RAISES IT OVER HIS HEAD AND IN A SUDDEN FURIOUS FRENZY, HACKS AWAY AT THE LITTLE VOODOO DOLL...
WHAM!

...AND CLARK VANDERMERE'S ALREADY MUTILATED BODY RESPONDS WITH AN AGONIZING SCREAM AS HIS LEFT ARM IS TORN FROM HIS BODY...
AAAHHAIIIII

...WITHIN MINUTES THE BODY OF CLARK VANDERMERE IS AN UNRECOGNIZABLE HEAP OF MUTILATED FLESH AND CRUSHED BONES LYING IN A MASSIVE POOL OF BLOOD IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS BEDROOM FLOOR...

BACK IN THE CRYPT...

THE END

BURIED UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE YEARS LIE TERRIBLE SECRETS SHROUDED IN **MYSTERY** AND HEAVY WITH **HORROR**...!

TERROR in STONE

MACAGNO

ON A DARK, DESERTED COUNTRY ROAD, A YOUNG COUPLE COME UPON A ***STRANGE*** LITTLE SHOP...

LET'S GO IN, GEORGE! HE MIGHT HAVE SOME VALUABLE ANTIQUES!

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THE PLACE, CAROL! IT GIVES ME THE ***SHIVERS***!

WON'T YOU COME IN, MY FRIENDS? I HAVE MANY FINE ANTIQUES TO SHOW YOU.

W-WE'D LIKE TO SEE THEM...

LOOK AT THAT FIGURINE, GEORGE! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
I THINK YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN THIS STATUE!
AS IF IN A STRANGE ECHO TO GEORGE'S FEARS, A STATUE IS SHOWN WHICH FILLS THE AIR WITH THE SUDDEN AND NUMBING CHILL OF EVIL!
THIS SHOP FRIGHTENS ME A LITTLE! THESE-- THESE THINGS LOOK SO--- UNNATURAL...
THIS STATUE IS A PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN WHO BELONGED TO AN ANCIENT WITCH CULT!
HER FACE IS EXACTLY LIKE MY WIFE'S ONLY HER FEATURES ARE GROTESQUELY-- TWISTED--!
...FASCINATING! IT MIGHT GIVE MY FRIENDS A SHOCK WHEN THEY SEE IT!
...WE'LL TAKE IT!
AS THE SALE IS COMPLETED AND THE COUPLE STARTS TO LEAVE, A GHASTLY SMILE PLAYS ABOUT THE LIPS OF THE ANTIQUE DEALER...
YOU ARE SMILING, MY MASTER. WHY?
I DID NOT TELL THEM ABOUT THE CURSE!
THE CURSE OF THE STATUE IS THIS: EACH MEMBER OF THE WITCH CULT, IS DOOMED TO KILL THE ONE SHE LOVES MOST. WHEN THIS IS DONE SHE IS TURNED INTO A STATUE TO BE RESTORED TO LIFE WHEN HER DESCENDANT KILLS SOMEONE IN TURN. UNTIL THIS HAPPENS SHE REMAINS A STATUE.

WHILE IN THE CAR, THE STATUE REMAINS A QUIET STRANGER AND SILENT PASSENGER...
I WONDER WHAT TERRIBLE STORY THAT STATUE COULD TELL?
IT'S UNUSUAL BUT THAT STATUE LOOKS LIKE YOU. COULD IT BE RELATED TO YOU IN SOME DISTANT WAY?
SUDDENLY, THE HUSBAND TURNS HIS HEAD TO SEE A FRIGHTENING TRANSFORMATION IN HIS WIFE'S FACE, AS IT SUDDENLY TWISTS INTO A MASK OF EVIL!...
NONSENSE! GEORGE, WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?
...YOUR FACE---IT'S CHANGED!
HOW? WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU'RE SEEING THINGS... DRIVE CAREFULLY, THERE ARE STEEP CLIFFS AROUND HERE!
SUDDENLY....
WOW! SOME PLACE TO GET A FLAT! WE'RE LUCKY! WE'RE SITTING RIGHT AT THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF!
ARE WE?
NOW THE VOICE THAT COMES FROM CAROL'S LIPS STRIKES TERROR AT HER HUSBAND'S HEART...
I AM COMPELLED TO KILL YOU, GEORGE! THE CULT OF THE WITCHES COMPELS ME TO KILL YOU!!
HUH?
YOU MUST DIE!
CAROL! YOU'VE FLIPPED! STOP! STOP!

SLOWLY, SLOWLY THE STATUE-LIKE CREATURE MOVES TOWARD HER VICTIM, PUSHING HIM FURTHER TOWARDS THE EDGE OF DOOM...
MY ANCESTORS DEMAND YOUR LIFE! ONLY THEN CAN THEY BE FREE!
CAROL, STOP!
DIE!! DIE!!
YOU'RE MAD! GO BACK! I'M AT THE EDGE!
A SHORT WHILE LATER, TWO POLICEMEN FIND A DESERTED CAR, THE HIDEOUS STATUE OF A WOMAN, AND AN ATMOSPHERE HEAVY WITH MYSTERY AND FOREBODING...
WHERE'S THE DRIVER?
AND WHERE DID HE GET THIS STRANGE, REPULSIVE STATUE? LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING THE DEVIL HIMSELF MADE!!
THANK YOU, SISTER, BLOOD OF MY BLOOD—YOU HAVE BROKEN THE CURSE ON ME! PERHAPS SOME CENTURY YOU WILL BE AS FORTUNATE! NOW I AM FREE.... FREE....FREE!!
AND THERE IS NO ONE LEFT TO TELL THE TALE OF THE CURSE...ONLY A BROKEN BODY AND A WEIRD, SILENT STATUE!
THERE'S THE DRIVER, WHAT A FALL! WONDER HOW HE GOT THERE?
The end

FOUR SAW THE LEGENDARY FACE OF UNUTTERABLE DOOM--AND EACH ONE MET A FATE TOO HORRIBLE TO DESCRIBE! BUT ONE AMONG THEM WAS THE TRUE GHOUL FROM THE BEYOND!

A HEAD FULL OF SNAKES

MACAGNO

ALL OF US WERE SCIENTISTS, HUGO HOFF, RICHARD DARE, AND I, JACK CROWL VIVIEN MADE A CHARMING AND VERY EFFICIENT FOURTH! WE HAD TRAVELED FOR MONTHS INTO IMPENETRABLE JUNGLE... AND NOW WE SAW IT

I THREW A GRENADE INTO THE CLOSED CORRIDOR, ALLOWING THEM TO ENTER THE TEMPLE...

LOOK! YOU'VE OPENED UP SOME SORT OF PASSAGE WAY INSIDE!
CAREFUL, EVERYONE! STAY CLOSE TO EACH OTHER!

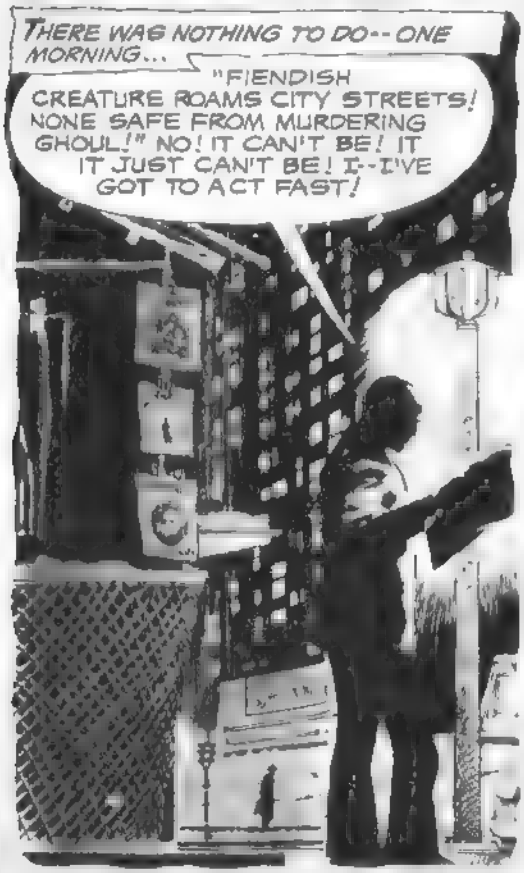
MOMENTS LATER...
CAN YOU MAKE OUT WHAT IT IS?
I DON'T SEE IT TOO CLEARLY IT THIS GLOOM!

AIIIIEEEEE! LOOK! LOOK!

THE SIGHT OF THAT HORRIBLE, MONSTROUS FACE FILLED ME WITH A DREAD THAT FROZE THE BLOOD IN MY VEINS! SUDDENLY-- I WAS SLOWLY BECOMING PARALYZED...
EEEEEE! WE'RE TURNING INTO STONE!
I'VE GOT TO DESTROY! THAT HEAD!

WE FOLLOWED IT INTO THE INNER-CHAMBER OF THE RUINED TEMPLE! SUDDENLY THE CREATURE TURNED ON US... READY TO KILL!!

ALL OF US HAD DECIDED NEVER TO MENTION RICHARD DARE'S TRUE FATE! THEN ONE DAY...



STOP!
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY!
ANOTHER NECK HAS BEEN BITTEN-- I ALWAYS CONQUER-- HA, HA, HA...

I RESOLVE TO FIND VIV THAT NIGHT... FOR THE GHOUL COULD BE HER, NO ONE ELSE! LATER, I FOUND HER NEAR THE OUT-SKIRTS OF THE CITY...
OHH-- IT'S YOU! I--I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE...
YES, I KNOW, AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE GHOUL! VIV, DO YOU SUPPOSE HUGO HAS COME BACK?

HAVE YOU OPENED THE CRYPT YET, JACK?
I--I THINK IT'S STARTING TO GIVE WAY!

CAN I HELP? PERHAPS IF YOU USE THAT CROW-BAR IT MIGHT WEDGE IT OPEN!
NO! IT'S MOVING! ONE MORE HEAVE AND I'LL...

HAH-HA

YOU! BUT WHY DID YOU WAIT SO LONG TO REVEAL YOURSELF TO ME?
BECAUSE IT WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY PRIVATE HERE... SO NICE AND QUIET--SO COMPLETELY PERFECT FOR-- DEATH!! HA, HA, HA, HA..

THE EVIL HORROR SPRANG AT ME, I SPRANG BACK AND GRABBED THE NEAREST THING AT HAND-- THE SHARP POINTED CROWBAR...
YOU FORGOT ONE THING--THIS CROWBAR!

IT'S DEAD! AND I'M STILL ALIVE! -- GOT TO GET BACK HOME, GOT TO PULL MYSELF! TOGETHER!

LATER.
WHO WILL EVER BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED? THEY'LL NEVER FIND HER AGAIN! BUT WHY AM I SO WEAK-- SO-- SO VERY WEAK--?

MY FACE SEEMS TO BE GETTING NUMB. I-I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE EVER FELT SO BAD!

THEN IT SUDDENLY DAWNED UPON ME THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE TYPE OF MORTAL WHO CAN CHANGE BACK AND FORTH INTO A CREATURE AT WILL! NOW YOU UNDERSTAND?
NO! DON'T LOOK AT ME! MY STORY IS FINISHED! WHAT--? YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO SEE MY FACE?

THEN GAZE UPON ME! FOR I AM THE TRUE GHOUL! THOSE OTHER THREE CHANGED INVOLUNTARILY-- BUT I-- HA-HA... I CAN LIVE FOREVER! COME CLOSER TO ME! JUST ONE LITTLE BITE ON YOUR THROAT! HA, HA, HA, HA AHA, HA!
THE END

THEIR LOVE WAS FOOLISH AND DANGEROUS—BUT LOVE THEY MUST! EVEN AT THE RISK OF A HORRIBLE DEATH! TERROR CAME, AND THE LOVERS PAID A TERRIBLE PRICE FOR ECTASY! BUT IN THE END THEY WERE AVENGED BY **THE MONSTER CRABS...**

SKIN RIPPERS

SIR GILES ROMNEY, GOVERNOR OF TORTUGA, WATCHES THE GRISLY EXECUTION FROM NEARBY—AND ENJOYS IT...

A TOUGH ROGUE, THAT ONE! BUT HIS PIRATE FRIENDS WILL REMEMBER THOSE SCREAMS, AND HATE ME FOR IT!

AHHH-GAAAA-EEEEE!

YES, SIR GILES! BUT WHY NOT KILL HIM NOW! HIS SCREAMS SICKEN YOUR WIFE!

NAY LET THE ROGUE DIE SLOWLY! AS FOR DAMARIS, SHE IS YOUNG AND TENDER, AND KNOWS NOTHING OF SUCH THINGS! BUT SHE WILL LEARN! TO RULE, ONE MUST BE HARD AT TIMES!

AT THAT MOMENT IN THE MUSIC ROOM, DAMARIS ROMNEY TRIES TO DROWN OUT THE HORRIBLE SOUNDS FROM THE BEACH...

MY HUSBAND IS CRUEL, EVIL! JOHN MUST TAKE ME AWAY FROM THIS PLACE SOON—HE MUST!

DAMARIS IS IN LOVE WITH YOUNG JOHN BURTON, THE GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY, AND THAT EVENING WITH A TRUSTED SERVANT...

WE MUST HURRY MISTRESS! IF SIR GILES FINDS US GONE...

I KNOW MELISSA! HE WOULD GIVE US TO THE CRABS! BUT THAT WILL NOT STOP ME FROM SEEING MY LOVER!

SO THEY HURRY THROUGH THE STREETS OF THE TOWN...

I AM AFRAID MISTRESS! YOU MUST FORSAKE THIS MADNESS!

PATIENCE, GIRL! IT WILL NOT BE LONG! JOHN WILL FIND A SHIP SOON AND WE SHALL BE GONE!

TO A LOVERS RENDEZVOUS...

DARLING, I MUST GO SOON! BUT PLEASE, IF YOU LOVE ME, FIND A WAY TO TAKE ME AWAY SOON!

I WILL DEAREST! BUT IT TAKES TIME!

LATER, JOHN BURTON IS ARRESTED...
UNHAND ME, YOU FOOLS! I'M THE GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY!
QUIET! YOU DON'T THINK WE'RE DOING THIS WITHOUT THE ORDERS OF HIS EXCELENCY, DO YOU?
EARLY THE NEXT MORNING THE GOVERNOR TAKES HIS WIFE FOR A DRIVE...
B-BUT WHY ARE WE GOING IN THIS DIRECTION GILES? YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE THIS PART OF THE BEACH!
THE STAKES, YOU MEAN? BUT MY DEAR, I HAVE A VERY SPECIAL TREAT FOR THIS MORNING!
I KNOW THE CRABS SICKEN YOU, DAMARIS, AND YOU HATE EXECUTIONS! BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO MISS IT!
YOU SEE! A FRIEND OF YOURS! THE CRABS WILL SOON BE AFTER HIM!
JOHN! OH, NO, YOU CAN'T! OH, JOHN, MY DARLING! I BROUGHT YOU TO THIS!
LET ME GO TO HIM! I LOVE HIM! YOU'RE EVIL AND VICIOUS! OOH- LET ME DIE WITH HIM!
NO, MY DEAR. YOUR PUNISHMENT SHALL BE EVEN WORSE, AND LAST LONGER!
OHHHH-GAAAAAAAA! I CURSE YOU, SIR GILES! EVIL BE YOUR FATE! I UH-YAAAAAAA- THE CRABS ARE TEARING AT ME!

THE NEXT DAY AS THE SERVANT GIRL HASTENS TO ARRANGE A RENDEZVOUS...

JUST A MINUTE, YOU!

T-THOSE SOLDIERS! THEY'RE FOLLOWING ME! OH, I'M AFRAID!

YOU ARE WANTED FOR QUESTIONING! NO TROUBLE NOW!

NO! LET ME GO! I'VE DONE NOTHING!

LATER...

HERE IS THE GIRL, YOUR EXCELLENCY! SHE WILL SAY NOTHING!

PLEASE, SIR! MAKE THEM LET ME GO!

WE SHALL SEE, MY GIRL! TELL ME THE TRUTH AND YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!

FINALLY SHE IS TAKEN TO THE BEACH...

SHE LIES! BIND HER WELL! WE WILL HAVE THE TRUTH YET!

THE TRUTH ABOUT MY WIFE AND JOHN BURTON! SPEAK!

N-NO PLEASE NOT THIS! DON'T GIVESME TO THE CRABS! I SWEAR I, KNOW NOTHING

H-HERE THEY COME! THE M-MONSTER CRABS! THEY WILL EAT MY FLESH WHILE I STILL LIVE TO SUFFER! B-BUT IF I TELL THE TRUTH...

AND AS THE SLIMY CREATURES REACH HER FEET, MELISSA BREAKS...

I-C-CAN'T ***EEEEEEE-*** I'LL TELL, I'LL TELL! THEY ARE LOVERS! THEY'RE GOING TO RUN AWAY TOGETHER! OH, SAVE ME! ***AHHHHH-***

RELEASE HER AND LOCK HER UP! FOR SPEAKING SHE SHALL HAVE A QUICKER DEATH!

AFTER THE HORRIBLE DEATH OF JOHN BURTON, THE GIRL GREW PALE AND ILL...
THERE IS MUCH SHIPPING IN THE HARBOR THESE DAYS!
YES, HIS EXCELLENCY GOES TO HUNT FOR PIRATES!
I PRAY THAT THE PIRATES KILL HIM! THAT THEY TORTURE HIM FIRST! I WANT HIM TO SUFFER AS JOHN SUFFERED! I MUST HAVE VENGEANCE I MUST!
AND AT LAST THE MILES OF REVENGE BEGIN TO GRIND! A PIRATE SHIP SHIPS TO THE VERY MOUTH OF THE HARBOR AND ENGAGES THE GOVERNOR'S FLAGSHIP..
FIRE AWAY, BULLIES! SCUTTLE THE BLOODY BUTCHER!
GET THE RANGE YOU FOOLS! SINK THE SEA SCUM!
AYE-IF WE LOSE WE'LL FEED THE CRABS!
GAHHHH-
THE PIRATE GETS A LUCKY SHOT INTO THE POWDER MAGAZINE OF THE FLAGSHIP...
AND THERE IS BUT ONE LONE SURVIVOR- SIR GILES ROMNEY...
S-SAFE! THE TIDES TAKING ME IN TOWARD THE STAKE BEACH! IT TAKES MORE THAN A CHANCE TO KILL ME!
A SUDDEN TROPICAL SQUALL COMES ON AND WHIPS THE SEA INTO WATERY MOUNTAINS...
THE W-WAVES! HAVE TO HOLD ON TO THIS TIMBER OR I'LL DROWN!
Y!!!!!!!!- THE TIMBER! GOING TO CRUSH ME! GAAAAAA-

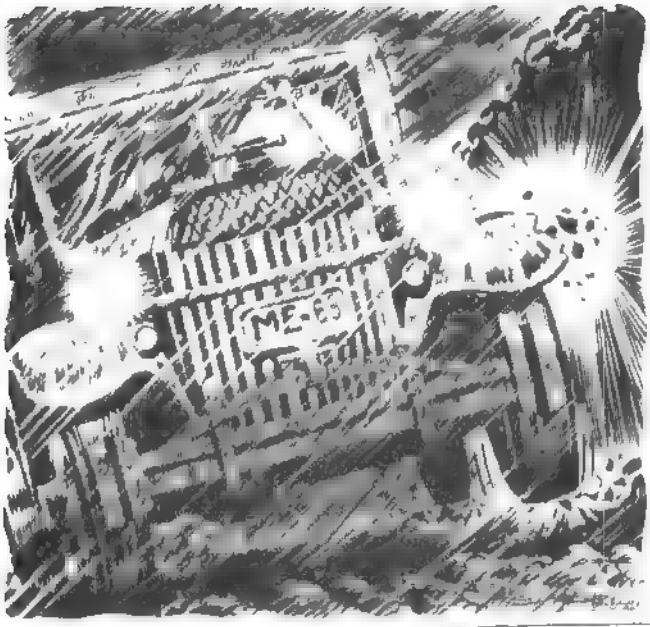
WHEN SR GILES REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS MINUTES LATER, THE TIDE IS ON THE EBB - AND HE S TRAPPED BENEATH THE GIANT TIMBER...
MY L-LEGS! BROKEN! C-CAN'T MOVE! I'M TRAPPED AND GAAAA, IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE CRABS TO COME IN! HELP-HELP!
DAMARIS! MY WIFE! OH, THANK GOODNESS YOU CAME IN TIME! HELP ME GET THE TIMBER OFF BEFORE THE CRABS COME! B-BOTH MY LEGS BROKEN! HURRY, HURRY DEATH!
HELP YOU, GILES? HAH-HAH!
DAMARIS! HELP ME, I BEG YOU! YOU'RE MY WIFE - YOU CAN'T...
CAN'T I? I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOU FOR THE CRABS, MY DEAR HUSBAND. HOW I'LL LAUGH WHEN YOU START SCREAMING!
HIS WIFE LEAVES AND WITH HER GOES THE LAST HOPE...
NO, STAY OFF GET AWAY! NO-NO-NO! GAAAAAA-
AIEEEEEEE-OHHHHHHH-EEEEEEE-
DAMARIS ROMNEY DIED SOON AFTERWARD. BUT TO THIS DAY THE NATIVES OF TORTUGA SWEAR THAT HER GHOST WALKS THE OLD BEACH AND LAUGHS AT NIGHT...
HAH-HAH-HEE-WE HAD OUR REVENGE, JOHN, DARLING! HO-HO-HEEE-HEEEE-
THE END

SATAN'S WARLOCK

OVER THE LONG-DESERTED VILLAGE OF JERICHO NOTCH, THERE HUNG A DARK PALL OF EVIL! THE YELLOWED PAGES OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE DEVIL WAS STILL INTACT, BOUND IN LEATHER WAITING FOR THE RIGHT PERSON AND THE RIGHT TIME!

AT THESE WORDS, A STRANGE EXPRESSION FLITTED ACROSS THE MAN AT THE DOOR! HIS VOICE WAS HUSHED!

DESERTED? I--I TELL YOU, I SAW AN ADVERTISE MENT...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A PRINTER'S ERROR! JERICHO NOTCH IS A GHOST VILLAGE!
I'M GOING UP THERE TO FIND OUT FOR MYSELF! NOW-- HOW DO I GET THERE?
ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO FIND FIND IT! KEEP DRIVING ON THIS ROAD FOR ABOUT FIVE MILES!
YOU'LL COME TO ANOTHER CROSSROADS--A SPOT WHERE THERE'S A HUGE OAK TREE WITH A SPIKE DRIVEN INTO IT! FOLKS CALL IT SPIKE'S CROSSROADS! GO LEFT THERE... AND YOU'LL BE IN JERICHO NOTCH!
AGAIN THE SCHOOLTEACHER GOT UNDER WAY --THIS TIME WITH A STRANGE SENSE OF FORBODING! WHAT WOULD HE FIND IN JERICHO NOTCH?
...IT'S SILLY, WHO WOULD PLACE AN AD FOR A TEACHER IN A GHOST TOWN? I MUST BE GOING BALMY!
SUDDENLY, THE HEAVENS SHUDDERED WITH THE CRACKLING BOOM OF THUNDER! LIGHTNING!
THE SPIKE IN THE OAK TREE! THIS IS SPIKES CROSSROADS! I'VE GOT TO BEAR LEFT NOW!
WHAT TH--! THE ROAD'S SLIPPERY, AND THE CAR'S SKIDDING!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WHEW! LUCKY THE CAR WASN'T TOO BADLY DAMAGED! HMMM... LOOKS LIKE A HOUSE AHEAD-- MAYBE I CAN FIND SHELTER FOR THE NIGHT! I'LL TRY IT!

WHY, THIS MUST BE A SCHOOLHOUSE... THERE'S EVEN AN OLD IRON BELL WITH A MISSING CLAPPER... MOST UNUSUAL...

AS THE SCHOOLTEACHER SHIVERED FROM THE COLD, HE BECAME AWARE OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF DREAD MENACE
IT ALL SEEMS SO FAMILIAR! BUT HOW COULD IT BE? I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE! I'VE HEARD MY GRANDFATHER TELL THAT OUR ANCESTORS FIRST SETTLED IN THIS PART OF NEW ENGLAND!

BUT THAT MUST HAVE BEEN TEN GENERATIONS AGO AND YET I HAVE THE FEELING THAT I KNOW THIS SCHOOLHOUSE-- THE FEELING THAT I WAS MEANT TO COME HERE!

AS HIS THOUGHTS EXPLORED THE IMPONDERABLE, THE TEACHER SHUDDERED FROM THE BITING COLD!
I'D BETTER GET A FIRE STARTED IN THIS STOVE! THE MATCHES SHOULD DO THE TRICK! LUCKY SOMEONE LEFT THEM HERE!

AS THE FLAMES FILLED THE ROOM WITH WARMTH, THE TEACHER PICKED UP A DUST-COVERED VOLUME LYING ON A SHELF!
HMMM! THIS LOOKS AS OLD AS THE SCHOOLHOUSE ITSELF! YELLOWED PARCHMENT! LET'S SEE WHAT IT'S ABOUT!
ORDINANCE of the DEVIL
by JOSHUA SPRAGUE
ORDINANCE OF THE DEVIL! WHAT A STRANGE TITLE! AND THE AUTHOR'S NAME! IT'S JOSHUA SPRAGUE! BUT THAT CAN'T BE! THAT'S--
AT THAT MOMENT... THERE WAS A SHATTERING ROAR-- AS OF THE STORED-UP THUNDER BLINDING LIGHT FLASHED THROUGH THE ROOM! THROWN OFF HIS FEET, THE TEACHER REELED FORWARD...
... AND LAY MOTIONLESS, THE ANCIENT BOOK STILL GRIPPED IN HIS HAND!
HOW LONG HE LAY THERE, HE COULD NOT SAY... OR WHETHER TIME WAS PASSING FORWARD OR BACKWARD! BUT THE NEXT THING HE HEARD WAS A STRANGE SOUND--
BONG-BONG! BONG! BANG! BONG! BANG!!!
THE BELL! BUT THE CLAPPER WAS GONE... HOW CAN IT BE RINGING!
STRANGE! THE COBWEBS ARE GONE-- AND THE SCHOOLROOM IS NEW. AND MY CLOTHES! RUFFLES AND BUCKLED SHOES... AND THIS WIG! I'M DRESSED LIKE A SCHOOLTEACHER OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO!

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!
STRANGE? IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! AND HERE COME THE STUDENTS TO SCHOOL!
GOOD MORROW, MASTER SPRAGUE WE HAVE COME TO LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT FURNITURE FOR OUR DWELLINGS!
AH...YES, OF COURSE, COME IN, ALL OF YOU!
AND THEN AS THE YOUNG MEN SAT, A POWERFUL IMPULSE DOMINATED THE TEACHER-- SEIZING HIM COMPLETELY! IT WAS THE IMPULSE TO CONTROL THEM, BODY AND SOUL!
HAVE YOU STUDIED YOUR TEXT FOR TODAY?
YEA, WE HAVE, MASTER SPRAGUE!
GOOD! THEN TELL ME--WHAT IS THE LESSON?
THE LESSON IS WHAT YOU HAVE TAUGHT US, MASTER SPRAGUE, THE ORDINANCE OF THE DEVIL!
HA! YOU HAVE LEARNED WELL! WHO IS THE MASTER OF ALL THINGS HUMAN?
THE DEVIL IS OUR MASTER, SIR!
YES! HE RULES THE EARTH--
YES! AND WITCHES, HOBGOBLINS, BATS AND WERE WOLVES ARE HIS SERVANTS!
AND WE SERVE HIM, TOO, AS YOU HAVE TAUGHT US, MASTER SPRAGUE!

HA-HA-HA! YOU HAVE DONE BETTER THAN I THOUGHT! YES, WE ARE ALL SERVANTS OF THE EVIL ONE! NOW, CAN YOU PROVE YOU ALLEGIANCE?

AS YOU HAVE TAUGHT US, MASTER SPRAGUE! TO DO EVIL IN HIS NAME!

THERE! THERE! I SEE HIM! IT IS THE DEVIL AND A HOST OF EVIL ONES-- COME TO JOIN US!
EEEEE-- AAH! I SEE HIM, TOO! WELCOME, MASTER! WE ARE YOUR SLAVES! COMMAND US TO DO YOUR WILL! AIEEEEE!

NARASH!

AND OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLHOUSE!
DEVILSH SPRAGUE! EVIL ONE, IT IS NOT WOODWORKING YOU TEACH-- BUT THE WORD OF THE DEVIL!
LET'S GO IN THERE AND FETCH OUT THE WITCH SPRAGUE!

SEIZE HIM!
WE'LL TEACH HIM A LESSON!

WE HAVE THE PROOF ON HIM-- HIS BOOK! GRAB HIM! DRAG HIM OUTSIDE!
YOU FOOLS! LET ME GO!

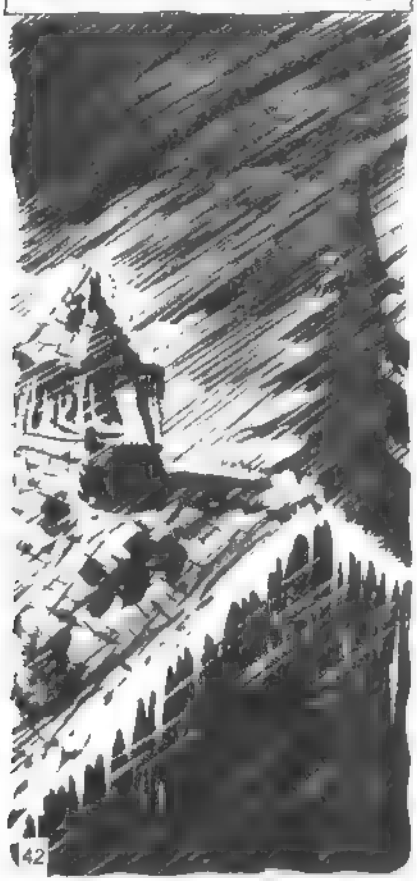
LET YOU GO? NOT UNTIL YOU'RE DEAD JOSHUA SPRAGUE!
AYE! BUT WILL THAT END HIS SORCERY?
IT WILL-- IF WE DO IT IN A CERTAIN WAY!

WE MUST DRIVE A SPIKE THROUGH HIS ACCURSED SKULL AND NAIL HIM TO AN OAK STANDING AT A CROSSROADS! THAT WILL CRUSH THE DEVIL IN HIS SOUL--FOR TEN GENERATIONS! IF ANY OF HIS CLAN RETURN HERE-- THEY WILL SUFFER THE SAME PUNISHMENT!

THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR, DOLTS? HERE'S THE OAK TREE!
AYE! AND HERE'S THE SPIKE PLUS THE HAMMER... LET'S GET ON WITH IT!
DEATH WAS NOW ABOUT TO SEIZE JOSHUA SPRAGUE!

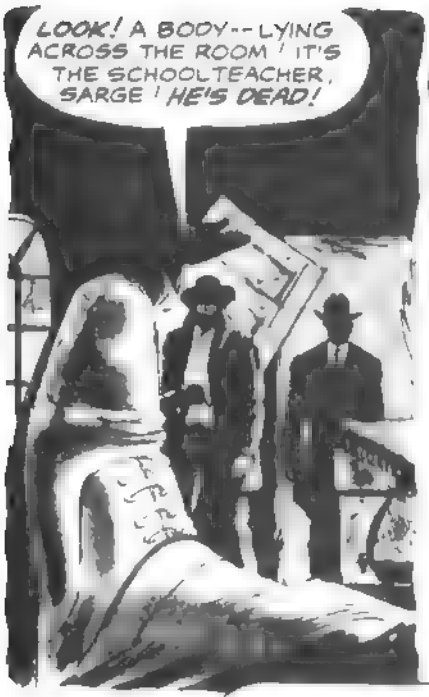
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, SPRAGUE -- IF YOU KNOW ANY FIT ONES!

NO! NO! SPARE ME! I BEG! I'LL NOT PRACTICE SORCERY AGAIN! I SWEAR IT!


ONCE AGAIN, RAIN SLANTED FIERCELY INTO THE SHINGLED ROOF OF THE SCHOOLHOUSE!

DAWN CAME, AND WITH IT THE RAIN CEASED! THROUGH THE FOREST WALKED TWO MEN!
WHEN THE OLD FELLOW DIDN'T SHOW UP AGAIN AT MY GAS STATION, I FIGURED HE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN LOST, SERGEANT! THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU!
WE'LL SOON SEE, FRED! THAT'S HIS CAR PARKED JUST OFF THE ROAD! AND HIS TRACKS LEAD UP TOWARD THE SCHOOLHOUSE!

THE FOOTPRINTS GO IN .. BUT THEY DON'T COME OUT AGAIN! WE'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!


LOOK! A BODY--LYING ACROSS THE ROOM! IT'S THE SCHOOLTEACHER, SARGE! HE'S DEAD!

HMMM! HE'S GOT A BIG SLIVER OF METAL RIGHT THROUGH HIS SKULL!
THINK IT WAS MURDER, SARGE?

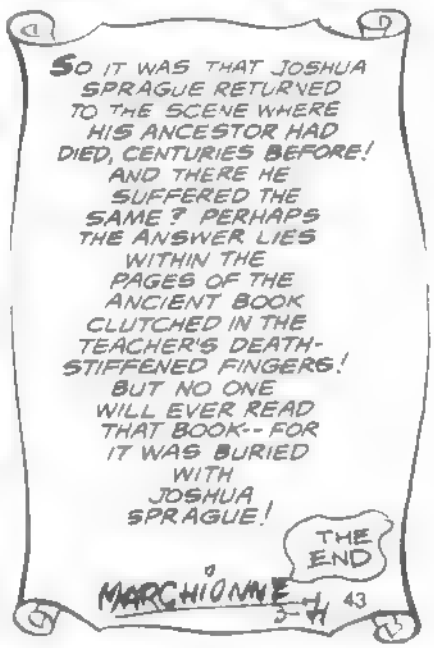
I RECKON NOT! HE MADE THE MISTAKE OF BUILDING A BLAZING FIRE IN AN OLD STOVE THAT EXPLODED, AND DROVE THE IRON INTO HIS HEAD! JUST AN ACCIDENT!

WHAT'S THAT BOOK HE'S HOLDING?
OH, JUST SOME DUSTY OLD TEXTBOOK, I GUESS! HE'S HOLDING IT SO TIGHT, I CAN'T PRY IT LOOSE! S'POSE WE'LL HAVE TO LET HIM BE BURIED STILL HOLDING ONTO IT!

WE'D BETTER PHONE FOR A HEARSE, EH, SARGE?
LET'S IDENTIFY HIM FIRST, FRED!

HERE'S HIS WALLET, SARGE!

HMMM! HIS NAME WAS JOSHUA SPRAGUE! I'D BETTER WRITE THAT DOWN SO I DON'T FORGET IT! JOSHUA SPRAGUE!


SO IT WAS THAT JOSHUA SPRAGUE RETURNED TO THE SCENE WHERE HIS ANCESTOR HAD DIED, CENTURIES BEFORE! AND THERE HE SUFFERED THE SAME? PERHAPS THE ANSWER LIES WITHIN THE PAGES OF THE ANCIENT BOOK CLUTCHED IN THE TEACHER'S DEATH-STIFFENED FINGERS! BUT NO ONE WILL EVER READ THAT BOOK--FOR IT WAS BURIED WITH JOSHUA SPRAGUE!
THE END
MARCHIONNE

RETRIBUTION...HOWEVER JUST...IS OFTEN WEIRD AND VIOLENT! BUT NONE WAS MORE HORRIBLE.. ..OR MORE JUST THAN THAT DEALT OUT TO BENTLEY LONG...
THE BLOOD-DRIPPING SCARECROW
WITH THE AID OF A FORECLOSE MORTGAGE, BENTLEY LONG HAS BOUGHT A DECREPIT SOUTHERN PLANTATION THAT HE INTENDS TO REFURBISH AND SELL AT A FABULOUS PROFIT!
YOU THERE! I'M BENTLEY LONG, WHO ARE YOU?
JUST CALL ME OL' ZACHARIAH, MR. LONG! BEEN LIVING IN A SHACK ON THIS HERE PROPERTY!
LIVE ALONE HERE, OLD MAN?
ALMOST, MR. LONG... THE SCARECROW AND ME ARE HERE TOGETHER...!

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR STUPID SCARECROW! AND AS FOR YOU YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE!
SORRY YOU FEEL THAT WAY, BUT I'M NOT GOING.
YOU HEARD ME! LEAVE!
THIS IS MY HOME AND I'M GONNA STAY PUT HERE UNTIL I DIE...ME AN' MY SCARECROW...
LATER THAT NIGHT, THE TREACHEROUS LONG REVIEWS THE DAY'S EVENTS.
THE OLD MAN MUST GO! THIS PLACE IS ALL MINE! AND THAT SCARECROW OF HIS GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
I'LL SEE HIM AGAIN TOMORROW AND TELL HIM TO GET OFF MY GROUNDS! IF HE DOESN'T... HE WILL LIVE HERE UNTIL HE DIES! HA-HA-HA!
THE NEXT DAY BENTLEY LONG CONFRONTS THE HARMLESS ZACHARIAH!
LIKE I SAID... WE'RE NOT LEAVING!
I'VE WARNED YOU, OLD MAN. YOU WANTED TO LIVE HERE TILL YOU DIE, THEN YOU WILL...
...DIE NOW! YOU OLD SCARECROW! DIE! THIS PLACE IS MINE!
AAAGGGHHHH!

HAVING SLAUGHTERED ZACHARIAH, BENTLEY LONG BURIES THE OLD MAN.
WHEW, WELL, THAT'S THAT! NOW TO REMODEL THE PLANTATION AND RESELL IT FOR A HUGE PROFIT!

THE NEXT DAY, LONG IS SHOCKED BY A PLEASANT SURPRISE!
HA! I KILL OLD ZACH AND NOW THE SCARECROW IS GONE! ...JUST AS WELL...IT MAKES MY JOB EASIER!
THAT NIGHT AS LONG RETURNS HOME...
HMM! THE OLD MAN'S HAT! I THOUGHT I BURIED IT! WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?

THE NEXT DAY...
STRAW! BLOOD-STAINED STRAW: HOW DID IT GET IN HERE?! NO! IT CAN'T BE!
...AND THAT NIGHT...
THE SCARECROW'S GLOVE...HOW DID IT--WAIT! MAYBE I DIDN'T KILL THE OLD MAN...OR AM I GOING MAD?
IN DESPERATION, LONG RUSHES TO ZACHARIAH'S GRAVE AND DIGS OUT THE CORPSE...AND IT'S THE SAME AS HE LEFT IT ONLY NOW THERE ARE BITS OF STRAW STREWN ABOUT--
..THE STRAW--HOW DID IT GET HERE? AIIEEE-- THE HAND! ...IT MOVED!!

LONG TURNS AND RACES AWAY FROM THE GRAVE! BUT HIS ALARM TURNS TO WILD HYSTERIA...AS THE CORPSE R SES IN PURSUIT!
AAAAIIIIIIIEEEEEEEE!
AAH

TERROR-STRICKEN LONG RACES ACROSS SWAMPS AND FIELDS IN A MAD RUSH FOR THE SAFETY OF HIS MANSION.
GO BACK TO YOUR GRAVE! Y-YOU'RE DEAD! DEAD! DEAD! ...I'LL BARRICADE MYSELF IN THE MANSION!

BUT THE CORPSE KEEPS MOVING CLOSER AND CLOSER ...RELENTLESSLY TOWARD LONG...
STOP! DO YOU HEAR ME,--STOP!

DEADMEN CAN'T WALK ...MAYBE YOU'RE NOT DEAD! THIS GUN WILL CHANGE ALL THAT!
SLUF! SLUF! SLUF!
BANG! BANG! BANG!

THE BULLETS! THEY WENT RIGHT THROUGH HIM!

STUNNED BY THE GRUESOME VISION'S IMMUNITY TO HIS BULLETS, LONG TURNS AND CRASHES THROUGH THE BALCONY RAILING TO A WAITING DEATH!
HAAAAAAAAAAAAAAARRRAAIIIEE!
HHHH!
AS LONG LIES DEAD, A FANTASTIC MACABRE SPECTACLE TRANSPIRES.
HIS LURID TASK COMPLETED ZACHARIAH FALLS AT THE DEAD MAN'S FEET AND A WEIRD TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE...
THE NEXT MORNING...
ZACHARIAH DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AROUND ANYMORE! BUT I SEE HE S GOT A NEW SCARECROW!
YEP! SORTA LOOKS LIKE THE NEW OWNER LONG!
The end
MARCHIONNE 72 71

THE HUNGRY SLIME
A MILLION YEARS AGO, WHEN THE EARTH WAS A MIST, MANY STRANGE THINGS LIVED... AND DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE, BUT SOME DIDN'T DISAPPEAR, AND STILL LURK IN DARK UNTRODDEN CORNERS OF THE WORLD!
MARCHIONNE 3-73

MERRILL DANE HAD SCALED THE WALLS OF THE SOUTHERN STATE PRISON... AND NOW IS LOST IN THE EVERGLADES!
BLOODHOUNDS! THEY'RE SURE TO GET ME... UNLESS THEY LOSE MY SCENT WHEN I CROSS THIS STREAM!
RROOWF!
WROWWEF!
GETTING CLOSER! HAVE TO RUN FOR IT! IF I WASN'T SO... TIRED! MUST REST... JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES!
ROOWF!
WROOWRRF!
AS DANE GULPED QUICK PAINFUL BREATHS INTO HIS ACHING LUNGS...
THAT STRANGE GREEN MIRE! I...I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE!
IT... IT'S REACHING FOR THAT RABBIT... CLUTCHING WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED!
IT'S EATING HIM... TURNING HIM INTO UGLY GREEN SWAMP STUFF LIKE ITSELF!
SUDDENLY...
THE BLOODHOUNDS! THEY... THEY'LL TEAR ME TO RIBBONS!
RRR
WR
POOF!
DANE FLED IN WILD PANIC, UNAWARE THAT HIS FOOT BRUSHED THE EDGE OF THE GREEN OOZE!
I'LL NEVER MAKE IT! MY LEGS... LIKE LEAD!
SLAP!
AND THEN... ONLY A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENED? I--I'M RUNNING FASTER THAN THE WIND... BOUNDING THROUGH THE AIR LIKE... LIKE A RABBIT!

DANE EASILY OUTDISTANCED THE BLOODHOUNDS, AND SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE HUT OF A SWAMP SQUATTER WHERE...

THAT GREEN SLIME... THE EVIL SWAMP STUFF! GET IT OFF!

WH-WHY? WHAT'S WRONG?

LOOK BEHIND YOU, MAN! **LOOK BEHIND YOU!**

HURRY! BEFORE IT GETS HERE! IT ALWAYS GETS BACK ITS OWN... EVEN THE TINIEST SPOT...AND IF IT'S ON YOU IT'LL SWALLOW YOU, TOO!

DANE HURRIEDLY WIPED OFF THE UGLY SMUDGE, AND FLUNG THE RAG AT THE CRAWLING OOZE!

IT GOT WHAT IT CAME FOR, NOW IT'S GOING BACK!

WH... WHAT IS THAT DEVILISH STUFF?

NO ONE KNOWS... 'CEPTIN' THAT IT'S **EVIL...** AND **ALIVE!** THEY SAY IF YOU TOUCH IT SOON AFTER IT'S EATEN A LIVING THING, YOU KIND OF ABSORD SOME-THING THAT WAS PART OF THAT THING!

IT MUST BE TRUE... I GOT IT ON ME AFTER IT FED ON THE RABBIT AND I WAS ABLE TO RUN LIKE A RABBIT!

DANE RESTED AT THE SHACK FOR A FEW DAYS, AND THEN...

DON'T FORGET ...YOU BETTER NOT MENTION THAT GREEN STUFF TO NOBODY OUTSIDE THE SWAMP, THEY'D THINK YOU CRAZY!

I WON'T ... AND THANKS A LOT OLD TIMER!

DANE FLED TO A DISTANT CITY WHERE HE CHANGED HIS NAME AND SECURED EMPLOYMENT...
R. JONES
GEN. MANAGER
I COULD REALLY GET PLACES HERE... IF I HAD A HEAD FOR FIGURES LIKE JONES! IF THERE WAS SOMEWAY I COULD ACQUIRE HIS TALENT...

... BUT MAYBE I CAN! THE SWAMP STUFF... BACK IN THE EVERGLADES! IF I COULD GET HIM THERE, AND... HMMM... JONES AND I ARE GOING TO GET REAL FRIENDLY!

SOME DAYS LATER...
FUNNY THAT WE'RE BOTH INTERESTED IN HUNTING... I KNOW A SWELL PLACE... ALIVE WITH GAME, LIKE TO COME OUT WITH ME THIS WEEK-END?
RIGHT! IT'S A DATE!
THAT WEEK-END, WHERE THERE WERE NO WITNESSES BUT THE GRIM SHADOWS THAT WRITHED SUDDENLY ON THE STREAM!
AMBROSE! WH-WHAT ARE YOU...
AAAHH!
HA-HA! IT'LL SUCK YOUR LIFE FORCE OUT-- SO THAT I CAN ABSORB IT!
MOMENTS LATER...
MUST REMEMBER ...HAVE TO WIPE IT OFF IN AN INSTANT!
IT... IT'S AMAZING! I... I CAN THINK WITH SUCH CLARITY NOW! THAT PROBLEM I COULDN'T SOLVE YESTERDAY... THE SOLUTION JUST LEAPS INTO MY MIND!

WILLIAM AMBROSE, ALIAS MERRILL DANE, CONVICT AT LARGE, WON HIS PROMOTION... BUT HE STILL WASN'T SATISFIED...

THIS JOB IS PEANUTS, THE GREEN POOL CAN MAKE ME THE GREATEST MAN OF ALL TIMES!

GENERAL MANAGER

HE BIDED HIS TIME UNTIL HE BECAME A LEADING MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY AND THEN INVITED THREE MEN TO HIS HOME...

GENTLEMEN, I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME ON A LITTLE TRIP!

HMMM... IT'S ALRIGHT WITH ME!

COUNT ME IN!

SOME TIME LATER, AT THE GREEN POOL...

EVANS...THE WORLD'S GREATEST SCIENTIST... CALKINS... A POLITICIAN, AND GENERAL WRIGHT, THE MILITARY GENIUS! WHEN I PLANT THEM HERE, I'LL COMBINE ALL THEIR GENIUS INTO ONE MIND... ***MINE!***

WELL AMBROSE... WE'RE HERE! WHAT'S NEXT?

YOU'LL SEE! STEP FORWARD ALL OF YOU... INTO THE GREEN POOL!

THE MAN'S MAD!

LET'S HUMOR HIM! THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN IS THAT WE'LL SOIL OUR CLOTHES!

ALL RIGHT IF YOU SAY SO... BUT I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT STUFF! SOMETHING EVIL ABOUT IT!

AAAAAAAEEEEAAAGGHHHH!!!

MOMENTS LATER...
NOW TO ABSORB THEIR GENIUS... BECOME THE GREATEST MAN ON EARTH!

THAT LITTLE FLECK OF GREEN... UNDER MY THUMBNAIL... CAN'T GET IT OFF... HAVE TO HURRY!

IT... IT WON'T WASH OFF! NO! NO WAIT!

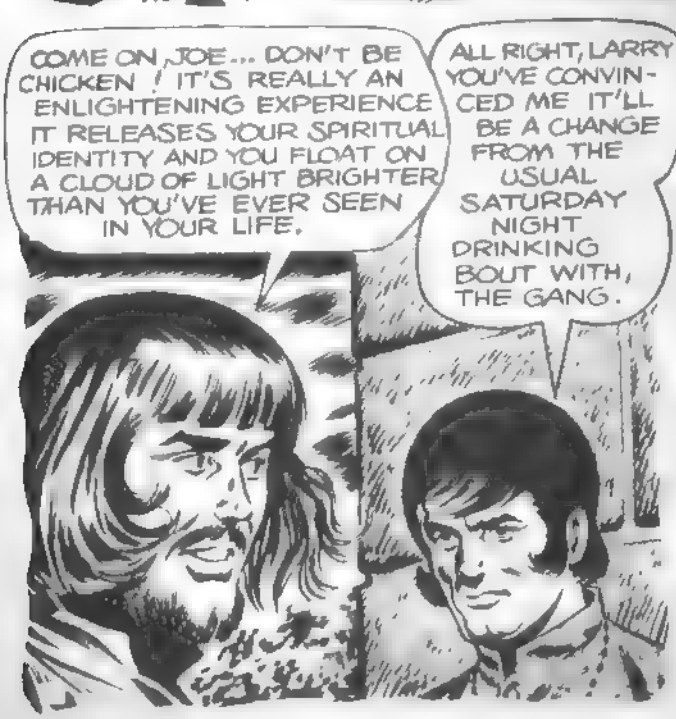
GO BACK! GO BACK!

LET ME GO! LET ME GO!
AAAH!...!

RELENTLESSLY, THE PUTRID TORRENT WASHED OVER HIM, AND THEN, ITS TERRIBLE HUNGER SATED, RECEDED SLOWLY...
THE END

HI! YOU BLOOD THIRSTY CATS! HERE'S AN EERIE TALE OF THE BLOODIEST **LSD** TRIP EVER... THIS WILL CURDLE THE VERY BLOODY CORE OF YOUR NERVE CENTERS AND LEAVE YOU LIMP WITH WILD EXCITMENT AND GHOULISH EXPECTATION... TIGHTEN YOUR SHACKLES AND COME WITH ME ON A BAD TRIP... PREPARE YOURSELF FOR AN

BLOOD BATH

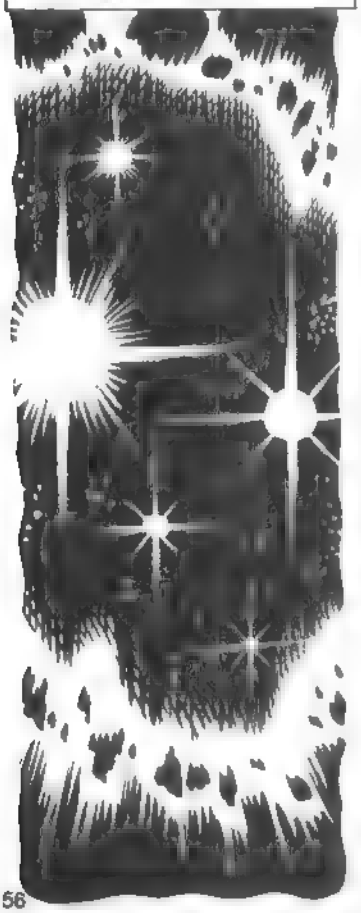


THAT NIGHT...

WE'RE LUCKY JOE... THE PAD ISN'T TOO CROWDED...LOOKS LIKE SOME OF THE KIDS ARE FLYING HIGH... AND SOME OF THEM ARE WELL ON THEIR TRIPS...

WELL, HERE THEY ARE, JOE...OUR TWO PASSES TO SPIRITUAL FREEDOM AND THE AWAKENING OF OUR CONSCIOUSNESS.

AFTER TAKING THE SUGAR CUBE JOE SAT IN A DARK CORNER OF THE ROOM... IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE WHOLE ROOM SEEMED TO BE EXPLODING WITH HOT FLASHES OF BRIGHT LIGHTS...



HE FELT AS TOUGH A GREAT WEIGHT WAS LIFTED FROM HIS BODY... HIS BRAIN WAS VIBRATING PULSATING AGAINST THE HARD SHELL LIKE INTERIOR OF HIS SKULL... HE FLOATED WEIGHTLESS AS THOUGH IN SPACE...

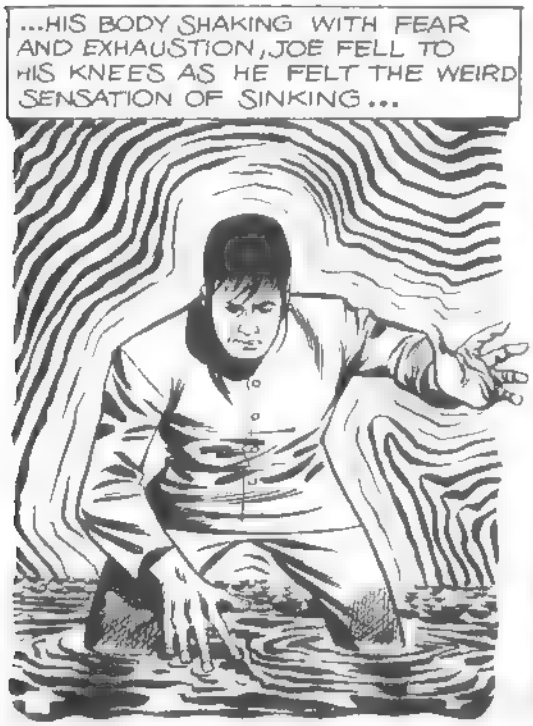
...HIS EYES ROLLED ABOUT IN THEIR SOCKETS UNTIL THEY SUDDENLY FELL UPON THE MINIATURE SKULL RESTING ON THE COFFEE TABLE...HE BEGAN TO MEDITATE UPON IT... AN ANGUISHED SCREAM ROSE FROM HIS THROAT AS BLOOD GUSHED FROM EVERY OPENING IN THE SKULL...THIS HE KNEW WAS GOING TO BE A BAD TRIP...

SHEAR HORROR TORE AT EVERY FIBRE OF HIS WHOLE BEING AS THE BLEEDING SKULL BEGAN WHAT SEEMED TO BE A TRANSITION... IT WAS TURNING INTO SOMETHING ALMOST HUMAN..

THE TRANSITION CONTINUED AS THE EERI THING BEGAN TO FLOAT ABOUT THE ROOM.

.. THE TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPLETED... IT WAS THE BATTERED BLOODY HEAD OF A YOUNG GIRL ...

HIS SUDDEN AGONIZING SCREAM CAUSED THE MACABRE HEAD TO DISAPPEAR IN A SUDDEN BLOODY EXPLOSION...


...HIS BODY SHAKING WITH FEAR AND EXHAUSTION, JOE FELL TO HIS KNEES AS HE FELT THE WEIRD SENSATION OF SINKING...

...SINKING IN WHAT SEEMED TO BE A STICKY, RED POOL OF BLOOD...

...GASPING FOR AIR, JOE BEGAN TO SINK IN THE HORRIBLE, PASTY RED MUCK...
...A SUDDEN STACCATO OF GUN SHOTS AND THE GRUESOME VISION OF A MAN BEING SHOT TO PIECES BRING JOE OUT OF HIS BLOOD BATH...
...THE AROMA OF SPENT GUNPOWDER FILLED HIS NOSTRILS AS NAUSEA AND WILD HYSTERIA GRIPED HIS VERY BEING...HIS ANGUISHED CRIES FOR RELEASE FROM THIS INSANE, HALF WORLD OF REALITY WENT UNHEEDED..... HE PLUNGED DEEPER INTO THE EDGE OF BLACKNESS...
...ICE COLD METAL TINGLED AGAINST THE FLESH OF HIS RIGHT HAND AND A SUDDEN SHARP PAIN WENT RACING THROUGH THE NERVE CENTERS OF HIS LEFT HAND...
...HIS AGONIZING SCREAM RESOUNDED THROUGH THE DARK CORRIDORS OF HIS DRUG SOAKED BRAIN AS HIS VISION FOCUSED ON HIS...
...VERY OWN HAND NAILED TO THE WALL...

HE SPUN DIZZILY...FEELING FAINT HE FELL TO THE FLOOR WITH THE STENCH OF DEATH IN HIS NOSTRILS...SLOWLY LIFE WAS EBBING FROM HIS SPASMODIC, ERRING BODY...

...WHITHIN SECONDS THE FINAL, THICK VEIL OF BLACKNESS ENVELOPED HIS WHOLE BEING AS HE ENTERED OBLIVION...

MOMENTS LATER COMPLAINTS FROM NEIGHBORS BROUGHT THE POLICE TO THIS GROTESQUE, SPINE-CHILLING SCENE...
GREAT CEASERS GHOST, WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED HERE...IS LIKE A HUMAN BUTCHER SHOP...
The End

BLACK LIGHT MONSTERS

DARKNESS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE BREEDING PLACE OF TERROR... THE UNKNOWN, WHERE HORRIBLE THINGS LURK... WAITING FOR THE CHANCE TO GRAB THE UNWARY! THIS IS THE TALE OF WILLIAM HENSON AND MICHAEL STROLLER, TWO MEN WHO PROBED THE DARKEST PLACE OF ALL...

I'M PULLING THE SWITCH KEEP YOUR EYE ON THAT SPOT WHERE ALL THE BEAMS CROSS!
BILL! LOOK OUT! THAT BLACK SPOT! IT-- IT'S ALIVE!
WOW! YOU WERE RIGHT, BILL! ABSOLUTE BLACKNESS!
I JUST KNEW IT WOULD WORK!
CLICK
QUICK-- THE SWITCH, BILL! TURN OFF THOSE LIGHTS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
W--WHAT...?
WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE, BILL!
IT DIDN'T REACH ME, I'D LIKE TO TRY TURNING THE LIGHTS ON AGAIN... SEEING IF IT WILL RETURN!
BUT YOU CAN'T, BILL! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! THAT-- THAT-- THING--
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, MICHAEL! I'VE FIGURED OUT A WAY OF AVOIDING THAT DANGER!

SOON...
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T, BILL! SOMEHOW, I-I'M AFRAID!
DON'T WORRY! THIS GLASS SHIELD WILL ALLOW THE LIGHT TO PASS THROUGH, BUT IT WILL KEEP WHATEVER IT WAS... FROM REACHING US!

LOOK, MICHAEL! IT'S MOVING AGAIN!
THAT THING IS EVIL, BILL!... I'M WARNING YOU!

IT'S GROWING LARGER AND LARGER, BILL! HOW MUCH LONGER DO YOU THINK THE GLASS WILL HOLD?
MAYBE I BETTER TURN THE LIGHTS OFF AGAIN!

BUT, IN THE NEXT INSTANT...
CRASH

MICHAEL SLOWLY RETURNED TO CONSCIOUSNESS, A SCREAM OF TERROR BURNING INTO HIS BRAIN...
WH--WHAT HAPPENED?
MICHAEL! HELP ME! HELP ME!

HURRY! HURRY, PLEASE!
TRY TO HOLD ON TILL I GET TO THE SWITCH, BILL!

YES... HENSON HAD BEEN SWALLOWED UP IN THE MAW OF DARKNESS... AND MICHAEL WAS ALONE!

SANITY HUNG BY A TINY THREAD AS THE MEN WALKED THROUGH THIS WORLD OF DARKNESS...

I SHALL MAKE GOOD USE OF YOU! YOU WILL BE ROBBED OF YOUR WILL--MADE TO JOIN OUR BLACK ARMY... MANY ARE NEEDED TO FIGHT THE FORCES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS...
WHAT CAN WE DO, MICHAEL? WE CAN'T LET OURSELVES HELP THESE DEMONS! BUT THERE'S NO HOPE... NO HOPE!
QUICK! LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR IT!
AFTER THEM! BRING THEM BACK ON THEIR KNEES!
IT'S A BLANK WALL-- A DEAD END! THEY'LL BE UPON US IN A SECOND!
IF ONLY WE HAD A WEAPON! ANY WEAPON!
THEN--FOR THE FIRST TIME-- MICHAEL REMEMBERED THE FLASHLIGHT HE WAS CARRYING...
WAIT! MAYBE WE DO HAVE A WEAPON! EVEN THOUGH THIS PLACE LOOKS AS LIGHT AS THE NORMAL WORLD, WE KNOW IT'S A PLACE OF DARKNESS, WHERE A REAL LIGHT MAY CAUSE TERROR! IT'S A DESPERATE CHANCE...

THEN AS THE CLOSEST OF THEIR PURSUERS WAS ALMOST UPON THEM, MICHAEL TURNED THE FLASHLIGHT UPON IT...
AAARRRGG!
AT LAST THEY WERE BACK IN THE CENTRAL CAVERN...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
LOOK! IT WORKS ON THE CREATURES... IF IT WILL ONLY WORK ON THE DEVIL, TOO!
I'LL SHOW YOU!
EEEEEEEE
THE BLACK WORLD SHIMMERED... REVOLVED AROUND THEM... AND DISAPPEARED! THEN, ASTONISHINGLY, THE WERE BACK IN THE LABORATORY...
HOW DID IT HAPPEN? WHAT BROUGHT US BACK?
YOUR FLASHLIGHT! IT WAS YOUR FLASHLIGHT!
WHO WOULD EVER BELIEVE THAT A SINGLE THING LIKE A FLASHLIGHT COULD SAVE THE WORLD FROM HORROR?
NO ONE, I'M SURE! ANYWAY, NOW THAT I'VE DESTROYED MY FLOODLIGHTS... I'M GOING TO DESTROY MY NOTES, TOO... SO THE MONSTERS WILL NEVER RETURN!
The End

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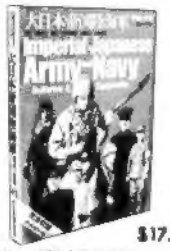

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(Minimum Charge: $10.00)

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY/STATE/ZIP .....

YOUR SIGNATURE .....

☐ **PLEASE SEND NEW FREE COLOR CATALOG OF OVER 500 ITEMS.**

NEW Pocket TV Radio

Enjoy TV Sound, AM and FM Outdoors, In Car, Anywhere, Anytime!

ONLY $19.95

Listen to TV Without Your TV Set! Never Miss Your Favorite Program!

Take the sound of your favorite program with you anywhere. Listen while you drive, shop, work, play, read, study ... even listen to one program while you watch another. **Hear TV sportcasts, musicals, soap operas, talk shows, news, games shows, movies, variety and comedy shows.**

New Radio Has 4 Bands

Portable solid state radio receives sounds of all TV channels 2 through 13 plus AM and FM radio.

TV1 Hear all TV shows on channels 2 through 6.

TV 2 Hear all TV shows on channels 7 through 13.

AM Hear popular music, sports, news programs.

FM Hear beautiful music, educational programs.

Send Your Order Today!

Your radio will be shipped within 24 hours of when we receive your order. **You will receive it complete with a 9-volt battery, ready-to-operate.** Radio is equipped with a large 2½" speaker for regular listening and earphone for private listening. **Also runs on 110-volt house current with adaptor. Add $3.95 if you would like the adaptor included.**

Supply may be limited at this special bargain price. Send your order immediately for guaranteed prompt delivery. **Send check or money order with your order. Sorry, No C.O.D.**

You may use your Master Charge or Bank-Americard. Please give card number and expiration date when you order.

Features Included

- Large 2½" speaker
- Large Tuning Dial
- 9-Volt Battery
- Pocket Size: about 5½x3½ x1¾"
- Handsome Styling
- Earphone for Private Listening
- Telescopic Antenna for Distant Stations
- Carrying Strap
- Adaptable to 110V House Current

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If you are not completely satisfied with the radio within 14 days, you may return it for a prompt complete refund.

Johnson Smith Co. 35075 Automation Dept. 227 Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48043

Johnson Smith Company Dept. 227
35075 Automation
Mt. Clemens Mich. 48043

Please rush _____ TV Radio(s) at the bargain price of **$19.95 each plus $1.50 shipping & handling. Mich. residents add 4% sales tax.** Please include _____ 110V Adaptor(s) **at $3.95 each.**

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____